GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2017
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BIO TECHNOLOGY POLICY
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Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any Bio-Technology policy to facilitate the development of new medicines and to increase public private partnership therein;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said policy is likely to be formulated?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) & (b) A National Biotechnology Development Strategy has been approved by the Government of India. The strategy is an outcome of a two-year-long nationwide consultation process with multiple stakeholders including concerned ministries, universities, research institutes, private sector, civil society, consumer groups, non-government and voluntary organizations and international bodies.

The strategy, while enabling the full utilization of currently available opportunities in manufacturing and services, lays a strong foundation for discovery and innovation, effectively utilizing novel technology platforms with potential to contribute to long term benefits in agriculture, animal productivity, human health, environmental security and sustainable industrial growth. The cornerstone of the strategy is the focus on building coherence and connectivity between disciplines and to bring together variegated skills across sectors to enhance synergy. The strategy seeks to address a number of challenges relating to the biotech sector in terms of R&D, creation of investment capital, technology transfer, absorption and diffusion, IPR, regulatory issues, building public confidence, and tailor made human capital for all these aspects. The stated vision of the strategy is responsible use of life sciences and biotechnology to promote balanced growth of all sections of the society.

(c) The Strategy has been released by the Government on 13th November, 2007.